



# PRESS NOTICE

## BILL NETTLES UNITED STATES ATTORNEY DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **GREENVILLE MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO CHILD PORN CHARGES**

**Columbia, South Carolina** ---- United States Attorney Bill Nettles stated today that Chad Anthony Davis, age 19, of Greenville, pled guilty today in federal court in Greenville, to possession of child pornography, a violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 2252A. United States District Judge J. Michelle Childs of Greenville accepted the plea and will impose sentence after he has reviewed the presentence report which will be prepared by the U.S. Probation Office.

Evidence presented at the change of plea hearing established that on March 15, 2011, law enforcement was conducting an on-line Internet investigation to identify individuals possessing and sharing child pornography using the private peer-to-peer file sharing program Gigatribe. An individual using the Gigatribe made contact with the agent and offered to share images and videos. The subject

provided the agent a password to access a folder in which he/she was sharing files. With out the password, this folder would be otherwise inaccessible. Law enforcement used the password to access the folder containing child pornography.

Based upon the IP address, agents were able to determine that the subject sharing the files was doing so using a computer located in Greenville, South Carolina. On April 15, 2011, agents executed a search warrant at the Davis' residence. They seized his computers and examined them. A forensic review of his computers revealed images of children engaged in sexual activity and lascivious display of the genitalis. .

Mr. Nettles stated the maximum penalty Davis can receive is a fine of \$250,000 and/or imprisonment for 10 years, plus a special assessment of \$100.

The case was investigated by agents of the Department of Homeland Security, Office of Investigations. Assistant United States Attorney Bill Watkins of the Greenville office handled the case.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorneys Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information, please visit [www.projectsafechildhood.gov](http://www.projectsafechildhood.gov).

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